

Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd

Minutes of board meeting of 20 February, 2008, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne

Present: Niel Black, Dianne Batterham, Graeme Charles, David Dinning, Tony O'Shea (Chairman) and David Griffiths (Secretary)

Apology: Shirley Faram

1. Minutes

That the minutes of the meeting of 29 November 2007 be signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

CARRIED

2. Co-operative Education

2.1 CCA Report

The board considered a draft report for the CCA on the Co-operative College prepared as requested by the CCA meeting on 4 February 2008. It was noted that the CFV board remains an advocate of the necessity and importance of the Co-operative College continuing its work in Australia.

That the report for the CCA on the Co-operative College prepared by Graeme Charles be endorsed.

CARRIED

2.2 MOU

It was noted that the Chairman had signed the Memorandum of Understanding between the Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd and the Co-operative College, Final 01 (230108) on 24 January 2008.

The Chairman reported that no further changes to the MOU could have been negotiated and that it was important the MOU was in place before the meeting of the CCA on 4 February 2008.

While there was no disagreement with the MOU, it was agreed that in future a document such as the MOU should be circulated to the board with advise on proposed action which allowed directors to if necessary object to the proposed action.

That the board endorse the MOU with the Co-operative College.

CARRIED

2.3 College Brochure

The board discussed the Co-operative College brochure - A different Kind of Learning for a Different Kind of Business Programmes for Co-operative Directors, Executives and Managers

Minor corrections were suggested for the quote on the bottom of p 4: "The workshop was lively, informative and enjoyable. I have been involved with co-ops for over 30 years as both a manager and a director and thought I new everything. This workshop really broadened my horizons, made me think and gave be a great insight. Thanks." Suggestions – knew instead of new and me instead of be.

The board discussed two possible changes to the brochure: (a) The need for brief introductory paras on the benefits of co-operative education to co-operatives. And (b) Reference to Graeme Charles as part of the delivery team in Australia – and not just a point of contact.

On (a) the board agreed that the problem with many co-operatives in Australia is that they still do not realise the significance of co-operative education to their survival and growth as co-operatives and that unless this link is made the relevance of the brochure is lessened.

On (b) the board agreed that if Graeme is accredited by the College as a trainer, then, this could be specifically acknowledged in the brochure and this could encourage more consideration by co-operatives to using Graeme that would not be achieved by a separate Federation brochure.

It was agreed that David Griffiths would inform the Co-operative College of CFV concerns.

The board also agreed to develop a complementary CFV brochure which could be developed with the assistance of Substitution Pty. Ltd.

4. australia.coop

David Griffiths reported that figures were now available on the State and city of many Australian visitors to australia.coop and that he had taken a sample of the most recent known 384 Australian visitors to australia.coop as of 1 February 2008:

98 Melbourne, Victoria
88 Sydney, New South Wales
79, Canberra, ACT
34 Perth, Western Australia
26 Sale, Victoria
24 Brisbane, Queensland
12, Adelaide, South Australia
11 Geelong, Victoria
7 Richmond, Queensland
2 Ballarat, Victoria

1 Ipswich, Queensland
1 Mackay, Queensland
1 Townsville, Queensland

5. Health Co-operatives

Diane Batterham reported on a possible program for the visit of health co-operative leaders from Brazil and Spain:

- A conference/workshop in Victoria hosted by the City of Hobson's Bay.
- A similar conference/workshop in NSW supported by the CFNSW
- A separate visit and meeting with the staff and board of Westgate.
- A separate visit and meeting with the City of Hobson's Bay.

It was also noted that the Canberra Health Co-operative would attend the conference/w3orkshop in Victoria and would probably support a meeting in Canberra.

6.CCA

It was noted that the CCA meeting on 4 February 2008 had suggested that Federations survey their members to establish membership numbers.

It was agreed that a brief survey on membership and other matters would be useful.

The Secretary agreed to prepare a brief survey for consideration by the board.

7. Meeting with CFNSW

Graeme Charles and Dianne Batterham reported on the meeting with the CFNSW on 14 December 2007.

It was emphasised to CFNSW that CFV was interested in exploring the possibility of a merger without being yet committed to recommending a merger.

It was noted that the board of the CFNSW has not met since the meeting on 14 December 2007 and had not, therefore, received a report on the meeting.

It was agreed to wait the outcome of a report to and reaction from the CFNSW board.

8. Membership Subscriptions

It was noted that 18 members had paid a total annual membership of \$12,595.

9. Financial Statements

The Statement of Receipts and Payments for the period 1 July 2007 – 6 February 2008 was noted with a cash balance as at 6 February 2008 as \$11,929.

That the financial statements for the period 1 July 2007 – 6 February 2008 be noted.

CARRIED

10. Indian Delegation

Graeme Charles reported on the visit of the Indian delegation from NCARDBF Ltd on to Murray Goulburn and Genetics Australia.

He reported that he was preparing articles with photographs on the visit for The Devondaler and australia.coop.

11. AGM Minutes

The minutes for the AGM meeting on 29 November 2007 were noted.

12. Terang

Graeme Charles reported that the Manager of the Terang co-operative had reported that the board had decided that it could not afford to fund a visit by Bob Burlton although there would be no fee involved.

13. Fonterra

It was agreed that N.Black would prepare a paper proposing that dairy farmers should only supply co-operatives and not supply other companies – including Fonterra which did not operate as a co-operative in Australia.

Next Meeting: 10:30 am, 16 April 2008, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne

Prepared by David Griffiths: 24 February 2008
Approved by Tony O'Shea: 25 February 2008
Emailed or faxed to directors: 25 February 2008
Snail mailed to directors: 27 February 2008

Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd

2008 Schedule of Board and AGM meetings

Board

Start time: 10:30am

Venue: Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne

16 April 2008

16 July 2008

15 October 2008

19 November 2008

AGM

11:30 am 19 November 2008